

Abstract

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A process is provided for the preparation of compounds of formula (I) herein comprising reacting a compound of formula (II), (III), (IV) or (V) in the presence of  $OR^3$  and a hydroxide trapping agent or in the case of compounds of formula (IV) reacting in the presence of an auxiliary base and a hydroxide trapping agent ( i.e.  $OR^3$  is substituted by the auxiliary base), wherein X is a leaving group and  $R^1$  to  $R^4$  are as defined.

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